

MNCHP Network Bulletin



best start
meilleur départ

by/par health **nexus** santé

April 1, 2011

In this week's issue:

I. NEWS & VIEWS

1. [Government of Ontario releases guideline for school fees](#) (available in French)
2. [Government of Canada launches open data portal](#) (available in French)
3. [Government of Canada to explore new options for tobacco control](#) (available in French)
4. [Latest product recalls](#) (available in French)
5. [U.S. Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\) examines link between food dyes and hyperactivity in children](#) (available in French)

II. RECENT REPORTS AND RESEARCH

6. [Family is the foundation](#)
7. [Substance using women with FASD and FASD prevention: A literature review on promising approaches in substance use treatment and care for women with FASD](#)
8. [Substance using women with FASD and FASD prevention: Voices of women with FASD: Promising approaches in substance use treatment and care](#)
9. [Substance using women with FASD and FASD prevention: Service providers' perspectives on promising approaches in substance use treatment and care for women with FASD](#)

III. CURRENT INITIATIVES

10. [World Health Day: April 7](#) (available in French)
11. [Master of Arts in Early Childhood Studies](#)

IV. UPCOMING EVENTS

12. [Physical inactivity: The biggest public health problem of the 21st century](#)
13. [Is the environment causing obesity? Take action to reverse and epidemic](#)
14. [Sheela Basrur symposium – Health promotion in Ontario 25 years after the Ottawa Charter: What have we achieved? What still needs to be done?](#)
15. [Body-image and self-esteem: Shades of grey](#)
16. [Diversity and equity in mental health and addiction: Fortifying communities, families, and individuals](#)
17. [All our sisters: First national forum on housing and safe communities for women in Canada](#)
18. [Ontario Municipal Social Services Association 2011 learning symposium and 61st annual general meeting](#)

V. RESOURCES

19. [Your newborn: Bringing baby home from the hospital](#) (available in French)
20. [Play for the brain](#) (available in French)
21. [Play activities: Ages one to three](#)
22. [Play activities: Ages three to six](#)

VI. FEATURED BEST START RESOURCES

23. [Founded in culture: Strategies to promote early learning among First Nations children in Ontario](#)
24. [A child becomes strong: Journeying through each stage of the life cycle](#)

I. NEWS & VIEWS

ONTARIO

1. GOVERNMENT OF ONTARIO RELEASES GUIDELINE FOR SCHOOL FEES

(available in French)

The Government of Ontario (2011, March 25) released a new *Guideline for Fees for Learning Materials and Activities* that will provide clarity for parents/caregivers and schoolboards about school fees. The guidelines specifies that every student has the right to attend a publicly funded school without paying a fee for any learning materials or activities that are needed to graduate, such as: workbooks and textbooks, musical instruments, science supplies, lab materials including safety goggles, and guest speakers or class trips where the topic being covered is mandatory to completing the course.

News: <http://news.ontario.ca/edu/en/2011/03/new-guideline-released-for-school-fees.html>

French: <http://news.ontario.ca/edu/fr/2011/03/publication-dune-nouvelle-ligne-directrice-relative-aux-frais-scolaires.html>

Guideline: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/feesGuideline.pdf>

French: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/fre/parents/feesGuideline.pdf>

CANADA

2. GOVERNMENT OF CANADA LAUNCHES OPEN DATA PORTAL

(available in French)

The Government of Canada (2011, March 17) launched the pilot project for an online Open Data Portal, which will make a large amount of data accessible through a single window. The Honourable Stockwell Day explains: "We want to continue to make Canada one of the best places to do business by ensuring that Canadian entrepreneurs, researchers, academics, and voluntary organizations have access to government data in useful formats to help foster innovation, job creation, and community services for Canadians" (Government of Canada, 2011, March 17). More than 260,000 datasets will be made available to all Canadians from the following departments: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; Citizenship and Immigration Canada; Environment Canada; Department of Finance Canada; Fisheries and Oceans Canada; Library and Archives Canada; Natural Resources Canada; Statistics Canada; Transport Canada, and the Treasury Board Secretariat.

English: <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-eng.do?m=/index&nid=597179>

French: <http://nouvelles.gc.ca/web/article-fra.do?m=/index&nid=597179>

3. GOVERNMENT OF CANADA TO EXPLORE NEW OPTIONS FOR TOBACCO CONTROL

(available in French)

The Government of Canada extended the Federal Tobacco Control Strategy (FTCS) for another year. Recent initiatives will be evaluated and ongoing approaches for the future of tobacco control in Canada will be explored.

English: <http://news.gc.ca/web/article-eng.do?m=/index&nid=599939>

French: <http://nouvelles.gc.ca/web/article-fra.do?m=/index&nid=599939>

4. LATEST PRODUCT RECALLS

(available in French)

Note: Products that are recalled for containing lead or barium are in excess of the allowable level per the Canadian Hazardous Products Act (CHPA).

- "Blues Buster" Light Bulbs: The affected light bulbs are not certified to Canadian standards and have not been evaluated for safety hazards. They may pose a fire hazard to consumers.
- Remote control systems for entertainment electronics: If the battery falls from the remote control during handling, it can rupture and smoke or ignite, posing a fire hazard.

English: <http://cpsr-rspc.hc-sc.gc.ca/PR-RP/results-resultats-eng.jsp?searchstring=&searchyear=&searchcategory=http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/advisories-avis/aw-am/index-eng.php>

French: <http://cpsr-rspc.hc-sc.gc.ca/PR-RP/results-resultats-fra.jsp?searchstring=&searchcategory=&searchyear=&startIndex=1¤t=truehttp://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/cps-spc/advisories-avis/aw-am/index-fra.php>

INTERNATIONAL

5. U.S. FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) EXAMINES LINK BETWEEN FOOD DYES AND HYPERACTIVITY IN CHILDREN

(available in French)

The FDA is examining whether artificial food dyes are hazardous and the link between food dyes and hyperactivity in children. The agency will ask a panel of experts to review the latest evidence. The panel will advise whether the issue should be studied further or if there should be a call for policy changes to include warning labels on food. Background documents released ahead of the meetings note that "while most children might be unaffected by food dyes, there are concerns that 'certain susceptible children' with behavioral disorders might have their conditions 'exacerbated by exposure to a number of substances in food, including, but not limited to, synthetic color additives'" (CTV, 2011, March 30).

<http://www.ctv.ca/CTVNews/Health/20110330/fda-food-colour-110330/>

II. RECENT REPORTS AND RESEARCH

6. FAMILY IS THE FOUNDATION

This paper summarizes the Canadian Association of Family Resource Programs' (FRP Canada) response to the reorganization of early childhood services. "It emphasizes the need to complement school-based programs with a broad spectrum of community-based supports for families and young children and makes recommendations for collaborative solutions to ensure that all children in Canada have a fair chance for health and happiness in a prosperous economy" (FRP Canada, 2011).

<http://www.frp.ca/document/docWindow.cfm?fuseaction=document.viewDocument&documentid=995&documentFormatId=1731>

The following reports and newsletter are based on findings from the *Substance Using Women with FASD and FASD Prevention* project, undertaken by researchers at the University of Victoria School of Social Work, in partnership with the BC Centre of Excellence for Women's Health, the Aurora Centre, the Canadian National Coalition of Experiential Women, PEERS Victoria, the FASD Community Circle, the Inter-Tribal Health Authority, and the Vancouver Island Health Authority. The project ran from 2008-2011

and was funded by the Victoria Foundation's FASD Action Fund. The overall purpose of this project was to consolidate and expand knowledge regarding effective, appropriate substance use treatment approaches and resources for women living with FASD. The project has three components:

- a review of the literature and practice knowledge regarding promising substance use treatment and care with women with FASD;
- an environmental scan to identify existing and innovative programs, resources, and approaches across British Columbia that are related to substance use treatment for women with FASD; and
- interviews with women living with FASD on their perspectives of their substance use within the context of other issues or challenges in their life – in particular, parenting and their involvement with the child welfare system, their perceived barriers to accessing treatment and care, and their perspectives on useful or promising approaches in relation to addictions/substance use treatment.

Newsletter: <http://socialwork.uvic.ca/docs/research/Newsletter%2021%20February%202011.pdf>

7. SUBSTANCE USING WOMEN WITH FASD AND FASD PREVENTION: A LITERATURE REVIEW ON PROMISING APPROACHES IN SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT AND CARE FOR WOMEN WITH FASD

The literature review is the first component of the project. It was geared primarily to Canadian information but international literature was included in all phases of this report, partly for greater context on the topic, and also due to the scarcity of information on the topic (Gelb & Rutman, 2011). The report includes an overview of FASD, issues and trends for women and substance use, and promising practices in relation to substance use treatment and care.

<http://socialwork.uvic.ca/docs/research/Substance%20Using%20Women%20with%20FASD-LitReview-web.pdf>

8. SUBSTANCE USING WOMEN WITH FASD AND FASD PREVENTION: VOICES OF WOMEN WITH FASD: PROMISING APPROACHES IN SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT AND CARE

A total of 13 women participated in the interviews and their ages ranged from their mid 20s to their early 50s. The participants were women who: (1) had a substance use problem; or (2) were birth mothers of a substance-exposed child or were at high risk of having a stance-exposed child, and

- self-reported having been prenatally exposed to: alcohol or that their birth mother had alcohol use problems, *or*
- were assessed/diagnosed and/or self-identified as having FASD, *or*
- were raised by someone other than their birth parents, **and**
- were identified by service providers or support people as having behaviours or characteristics in keeping with FASD.

This report (Rutman, 2011) includes an overview of: women's lives – situating substance use and what helps; good experiences in receiving service care or care related to substance use; barriers to care and bad experiences with substance use programs; women's tips and parting messages for ways that substance use treatment programs and services could be improved.

<http://socialwork.uvic.ca/docs/research/Substance%20Using%20Women%20with%20FASD%20-%20Voices%20of%20Women%20Report-web.pdf>

9. SUBSTANCE USING WOMEN WITH FASD AND FASD PREVENTION: SERVICE PROVIDERS' PERSPECTIVES ON PROMISING APPROACHES IN SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT AND CARE FOR WOMEN WITH FASD

A total of 40 individual interviews and one group interview (involving 6 people) were completed with overall geographic representation from all regions of British Columbia. The participants included managers and staff of a variety of organizations offering a range of services/programs, such as:

residential treatment facilities, FASD-focused organizations, FASD prevention or FASD support-related programs, sex worker organizations, support groups for substance using women or women at risk of having a child with FASD, addiction recovery support groups, and mentoring programs for high risk women (Rutman, 2011). The findings provide information about: barriers for women with FASD in accessing substance use treatment programs or care; barriers for women with FASD in succeeding in substance use treatment programs or care; service providers' perspectives on the experiences of women with FASD in substance use treatment programs; promising practices – what has worked well in substance use treatment programs or care for women with FASD; examples of promising programs for women who may have FASD; and what is needed to improve the accessibility, design and delivery of substance use treatment programs and care for women with FASD.

<http://socialwork.uvic.ca/docs/research/Substance%20Using%20Women%20with%20FASD%20-%20Service%20Providers%27%20Perspectives%20report-web.pdf>

III. CURRENT INITIATIVES

10. WORLD HEALTH DAY: APRIL 7

(available in French)

The theme for 2011 World Health Day is “Antimicrobial resistance: no action today, no cure tomorrow”. On April 7th, the World Health Organization (WHO) will introduce a six-point policy package to combat the spread of antimicrobial resistance. WHO is calling on governments and stakeholders to implement the policies and practices needed to prevent and counter the emergence of highly resistant microorganisms.

English: <http://www.who.int/world-health-day/2011/en/index.html>

French: <http://www.who.int/world-health-day/2011/fr/index.html>

11. MASTER OF ARTS IN EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDIES

The Ryerson MA Program in Early Childhood Studies (MECS) has a focus on integrating diversity into early childhood education and on preparing educators and professional personnel to meet the needs of this fast-growing and fast-changing field. Ryerson offers a course-based option and a research paper option. All incoming full-time students will receive scholarships.

Admission criteria: <http://www.ryerson.ca/ece/graduate/mecs.admissions.html>

More information: <http://www.ryerson.ca/ece/graduate/>

IV. UPCOMING EVENTS

This section lists events that have not been included in earlier editions of the bulletin or listserv postings. For the details of these events and a complete list of events noted in previous bulletins and postings see <http://www.beststart.org/events/otherevents.php>

ONLINE

12. PHYSICAL INACTIVITY: THE BIGGEST PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM OF THE 21ST CENTURY

April 12, 2011: Online

Hosted by: Human Kinetics

<http://www.humankinetics.com/webinars-from-active-living-partners/webinars-from-active-living-partners/Physical-Inactivity-The-Biggest-Public-Health-Problem-of-the-21st-Century>

13. IS THE ENVIRONMENT CAUSING OBESITY? TAKING ACTION TO REVERSE AN EPIDEMIC

April 21, 2011: Online

Hosted by: Human Kinetics

<http://www.humankinetics.com/webinars-from-active-living-partners/webinars-from-active-living-partners/register-now-is-the-environment-causing-obesity-taking-action-to-reverse-an-epidemic>

ONTARIO**14. SHEELA BASRUR SYMPOSIUM – HEALTH PROMOTION IN ONTARIO 25 YEARS AFTER THE OTTAWA CHARTER: WHAT HAVE WE ACHIEVED? WHAT STILL NEEDS TO BE DONE?**

April 6, 2011: Toronto, ON

Hosted by: The Sheela Basrur Centre and the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion

<http://www.sheelabasrurcentre.ca/events.html#apr62011>

15. BODY-IMAGE AND SELF-ESTEEM: SHADES OF GREY

May 2-3, 2011: Toronto, ON

Hosted by: National Eating Disorder Information Centre

<http://www.nedic.ca/>

16. DIVERSITY AND EQUITY IN MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION: FORTIFYING COMMUNITIES, FAMILIES, AND INDIVIDUALS

May 9-11, 2011: Toronto, ON

Hosted by: Across Boundaries, Canadian Mental Health Association, Toronto Branch

<http://www.ohpe.ca/node/12170>

17. ALL OUR SISTERS: FIRST NATIONAL FORUM ON HOUSING AND SAFE COMMUNITIES FOR WOMEN IN CANADA

May 9-11, 2011: London, ON

Hosted by: All Our Sisters

<http://www.alloursisters.ca/>

18. ONTARIO MUNICIPAL SOCIAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION (OMSSA) 2011 LEARNING SYMPOSIUM AND 61ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

June 5-8, 2011: London, ON

Hosted by: OMSSA

<http://www.omssa.com/singlepage.asp?itemcode=OMSSA-2011LEARNINGSYMP>

V. RESOURCES

19. YOUR NEWBORN: BRINGING BABY HOME FROM THE HOSPITAL

(available in French)

This resource (Canadian Paediatric Society, 2011) provides information for parents/caregivers about how to prepare for a new baby. It includes information about what parents/caregivers should remember when they get home and when to take their baby for the first doctor's visit.

English: <http://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/pregnancybabies/BabyHome.htm>

French: <http://www.soinsdenosenfants.cps.ca/Grossessebebes/BebeMaison.htm>

20. PLAY FOR THE BRAIN

(available in French)

This resource provides information for parents/caregivers about the importance of play for brain development. Tips for parents/caregivers about playing with their children are also included.

English:

<http://www.parentsmatter.ca/document/docWindow.cfm?fuseaction=document.viewDocument&documentid=142&documentFormatId=980>

French:

<http://www.parentsvouscomptez.ca/document/docWindow.cfm?fuseaction=document.viewDocument&documentid=520&documentFormatId=1290>

21. PLAY ACTIVITIES: AGES ONE TO THREE

This resource covers 10 fun activities to help a child (age one to three) develop good physical skills.

<http://www.canadiansportforlife.ca/upload/docs/Parent/activestart6.pdf>

22. PLAY ACTIVITIES: AGES ONE TO THREE

This resource covers 10 fun activities to help a child (age three to six) develop good physical skills.

<http://www.canadiansportforlife.ca/upload/docs/Parent/activestart7.pdf>

VI. FEATURED BEST START RESOURCES

23. FOUNDED IN CULTURE: STRATEGIES TO PROMOTE EARLY LEARNING AMONG FIRST NATIONS CHILDREN IN ONTARIO

This report (2011) reviews early learning policy and research for First Nations children and identifies strategies to support early learning for service providers who work with First Nations parents/caregivers.

http://www.beststart.org/resources/hlthy_chld_dev/index.html

24. A CHILD BECOMES STRONG: JOURNEYING THROUGH EACH STAGE OF THE LIFE CYCLE

This manual (2011) offers culturally specific teachings and information about First Nations child development/child rearing.

http://www.beststart.org/resources/hlthy_chld_dev/index.html

The Best Start Resource Centre thanks you for your interest in, and support of, our work. Best Start permits others to copy, distribute or reference the work for non-commercial purposes on condition that full credit is given. Because our MNCHP bulletins are designed to support local health promotion initiatives, we would appreciate knowing how this resource has supported, or been integrated into, your work (mnchp@healthnexus.ca). Please note that the Best Start Resource Centre does not endorse or recommend any events, resources, or publications mentioned in this bulletin.

Click here to access Health Nexus' other e-bulletins and listservs:

In English:

- **OHPE** - The free weekly Ontario Health Promotion E-mail bulletin (OHPE) offers a digest of news, events, jobs, feature articles on health promotion issues, resources, and much more, to those working in health promotion. <http://www.ohpe.ca/>

- [Click4HP](https://listserv.yorku.ca/archives/click4hp.html) - An open, facilitated public listserv, is an international dialogue on health promotion. Participants exchange views on issues and ideas, provide leads to resources, and ask questions about health promotion. <https://listserv.yorku.ca/archives/click4hp.html>
- [Health Nexus Today](http://www.blogs.healthnexusante.ca/) - Health Nexus Today is our Blog on health promotion. According to Google, "Blog is short for weblog - a journal or newsletter that is frequently updated and intended for the general public." Find the latest on health promotion including breaking news, highlights, studies, and issues in health promotion and the determinants of health in Canada and internationally. <http://www.blogs.healthnexusante.ca/>

In French:

- [French distribution list](http://www.meilleurdepart.org/index_fr.html) - The free distribution list offers information in French on maternal, newborn, and child health promotion topics. http://www.meilleurdepart.org/index_fr.html
- [Le Bloc-Notes](http://leblocnotes.ca/) - The biweekly French language bulletin provides information on health promotion. <http://leblocnotes.ca/>